PRESS RELEASE

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2024 ARLIS/NA Applauds Award recipient

WESTFORD, Massachusetts – The Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) is pleased to announce that the 2023 ARLIS/NA Applauds Award will be given to Isamar Abreu Gómez in recognition of her work in support of the Mexico City conference as well as diversity and inclusion efforts within the Society. The Applauds Award was presented at the ARLIS/NA 52nd Annual Conference Awards Ceremony, in Pittsburgh, PA, on April 5, 2024.

Isamar Abreu Gómez is a Librarian at the Colección de las Artes y Música at University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. She has been a member of ARLIS/NA since 2021, where she serves on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Isamar was nominated for the Applauds Award for her work with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee leading up to the Society's Annual Conference in Mexico City held in 2023.

Isamar connected the committee with the Biblioteca Negra who served as the Diversity Forum speaker for the Mexico City conference and translated the conversations between the committee and speakers. She remains in contact with the Biblioteca Negra to facilitate an ARLIS sponsored resource drive to benefit the library and to ensure a lasting relationship. As her nomination reads, "The Diversity and Inclusion Committee owes it's entire ability to function for the Mexico City Conference to Isamar as well for her advice, ideas, language skills, and relationship building with external partners."

In addition, Isamar worked on the Spanish language transcript for the recording of the Diversity Forum uploaded to Kaltura in the Society's online learning platform where it can be accessed by many more viewers. As the description reads, "La Biblioteca Negra breaks out of colonial and imperialist models of library collections, instead focusing on building collective memory with the Afro-Mexican community" and offers viewers a "model for building and maintaining diverse collections with and for communities of color. "

Established in 2020, the [ARLIS/NA Applauds Award](#) honors an individual or a group of up to five persons to recognize an outstanding contribution to the Society's work during the preceding calendar year. The 2023 Applauds Award Committee members include Emily Ha, Michele Jennings, D. Vanessa Kam, Claire Payne, and Jessica Evans Brady (chair).

About the Art Libraries Society of North America

Founded in 1972, the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) is a dynamic, international organization of close to 1,000 individuals devoted to fostering excellence in art and design librarianship and image management in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The membership includes

architecture and art librarians, visual resources professionals, artists, curators, educators, publishers, students, and other interested in visual arts information. To serve this diverse constituency, the Society provides a wide range of programs and services within an organizational structure that encourages participation at every level.

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